

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicant: Reynaldo Gil, *et al.*  
Title: Supply Chain Management  
Appl. No.: 10/028,542 Conf. No. 2451  
Filing Date: 12/19/2001  
Examiner: Jeanty, Romain  
Art Unit: 3623

I, Perry J. Hoffman, hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted Electronically to the USPTO to the Commissioner for Patents, ATTN: Examiner Jeanty, Romain, on the date indicated below.

Signature: /perry hoffman/

Date of Signature: April 16, 2008

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO RCE**

Mail Stop AMENDMENTS  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

[X] AUTHORIZATION TO PAY AND PETITION FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF ANY NECESSARY FEES: If any charges or fees must be paid in connection with the following Communication (including but not limited to the payment of issue fees), they may be paid out of our deposit account No. 50-3286. If this payment also requires a Petition, please construe this authorization to pay as the necessary Petition which is required to accompany the payment.

Dear Sir or Madam:

Pursuant to the instant RCE, please enter the following Amendments and Remarks in the above-referenced application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10.

Please amend the application as follows: